

Message Text

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ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 AGRE-00 IGA-02 AID-05
MED-03 DODE-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01
HEW-06 L-03 H-02 /083 W
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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8928
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS DUBLIN 645

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR EI
SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON DECRIMINALIZATION OF
MARIJUANA

REF: STATE 57902

1. PRESENT IRISH LAW CONCERNING CANNABIS HAS NO DISTINCTION
BETWEEN POSSESSION FOR PERSONAL USE AND TRAFFICKING. FIRST
OFFENSE PROVIDES MAXIMUM 50 POUND FINE (POUND PRESENTLY IS
1.72 DOLLARS) AND SIX MONTH IMPRISONMENT, SUCCEEDING OFFENSES
500 POUNDS AND FIVE YEARS. PRACTICE IS VARIABLE BUT
POSSESSION FOR PERSONAL USE IS SELDOM EVEN BROUGHT TO COURT
AS LEGAL AUTHORITIES HAVE GIVEN WIDE LATITUDE TO THE DRUG
SQUAD. TRAFFICKERS USUALLY GET ABOUT ONE YEAR.

2. SINCE 1973 AN EW QUOTE MISUSE OF DRUGS UNQUOTE BILL HAS
BEEN SLOWLY WORKING ITS WAY THROUGH THE IRISH PARLIAMENT TO
REPLACE THE PRESENT ANTIQUATED 1934 LAW. IF IT GETS A FINAL
READING IT SHOULD PASS THIS YEAR WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT OPPO-
SITION. WHILE NOT EXACTLY QUOTE DECRIMINALIZING UNQUOTE
THE POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA FOR PERSONAL USE IT GOES FAR IN
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THAT DIRECTION. THE BILL PROVIDES FOR: (A) FIRST OFFENCE -
MAXIMUM FIFTY POUNDS, NO IMPRISONMENT; (B) SECOND OFFENSE -
MAXIMUM ONE HUNDRED POUNDS, NO IMPRISONMENT; (C) THIRD
OFFENSE - TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY POUNDS AND MAXIMUM
TWELVE MONTHS IMPRISONMENT. TRAFFICKING IN MARIJUANA
WILL HAVE A MAXIMUM 1500 POUNDS AND SEVEN YEARS. CURLEY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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